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PAGE 01 MONTEV 00680 011722Z
ACTION ARA-14
INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FA-05 INR-10 L-03 SS-15 /040 W
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P 011602Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5936
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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SHUM, UY
SUBJ: PRESIDENT MENDEZ APPROVES ABA VISIT
ARA/ECA FOR AMBASSADOR PEZZULLO
REF: (A) STATE 035275 (B) STATE 051236
1. FONMIN HAS SENT CHARGE COPY OF PRESIDENT MENDEZ' FEBRUARY LETTER TO BAR ASSOCIATION OF CITY OF NEW YORK PRESIDENT DE WIND. MENDEZ LETTER (REPLYING TO DE WIND LETTER WHICH WE TRANSMITTED PER REFTEL (A) APPROVES DE WIND REQUEST FOR ABA/BUTLER/REQUE VISIT AND ADVISES HIM TO CONTACT FONMINISTRY OR URUGUAYAN EMBASSY, WASHINGTON, TO WORK OUT SPECIFIC DETAILS. FOLLOWING IS EMBASSY'S TRANSLATION OF FULL TEXT OF LETTER: QUOTE THIS IS IN REPLY TO YOUR LETTER OF FEBRUARY 7, 1978 IN WHICH YOU CONVEY THE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION'S PROPOSAL TO SEND TWO AMERICAN LAWYERS TO STUDY AND INFORM THEMSELVES CONCERNING THE SITUATION OF CERTAIN URUGUAYAN PROFESSIONALS PLACED BEFORE OUR JUSTICE.
IN PRINCIPLE, THIS GOVERNMENT HAS NOT PERMITTED THE ENTRY OF INVESTIGATING COMMISSIONS, WHATEVER THEIR ORIGIN, BECAUSE WE BELIEVE THIS AFFECTS OUR SOVEREIGNTY, IS AN ADMISSION OF THE EXISTANCE OF QUESTIONABLE FACTORS, AND EQUALLY IMPORTANT, IS AN ACCEPTANCE OF THE RIGHT OF THIRD
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PAGE 02 MONTEV 00680 011722Z
PARTIES TO INTERVENE IN THE PRIVATE AFFAIRS OF OUR NATION. HOWEVER, A PETITION SUCH AS YOURS, INSPIRED BY THE DESIRE OF DISTINGUISHED PROFESSIONALS, WHOM WE SUPPOSE ARE ABOVE THE INTERESTS OF GROUPS OF TENDENCIES, TO INFORM THEMSELVES ABOUT A SITUATION DESERVES OUR RESPECT AND CONSIDERATION. FOR THESE REASONS, NOTING THAT WE SHARE YOUR CONCERN FOR ALL ASPECTS OF THE RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, I AM PLEASED TO INFORM YOU THAT WE WOULD BE VERY PLEASED TO RECEIVE THEM (BUTLER AND REQUE) AND TO FACILITATE THEIR CONTACTS WITH COMPETENT ORGANS, WITHOUT ANY RESERVATION, WITHIN THE LIMITS OF OUR LEGITIMATE RIGHTS.
TO THIS END, I ASK YOU TO COMMUNICATE TO THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN RELATIONS OR TO OUR EMBASSY, THE DATE, AIRLINE, AND FLIGHT NUMBER SO THAT WE CAN RECEIVE THEM AND GIVE THEM ALL APPROPRIATE ASSISTANCE. UNQUOTE.
2. COMMENT: GIVEN TIME FACTOR, BUTLER AND REQUE SHOULD PROMPTLY CONTACT URUGUAYAN EMBASSY WASHINGTON TO MAKE

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FINAL ARRANGEMENTS. PLEASE INFORM US RE THEIR SCHEDULE AND ADVISE IF WE CAN PROVIDE ANY ASSISTANCE FROM HERE IS OUR FACILITATIVE ROLE. WE UNDERSTAND THAT GOU WILL MEET VISITORS ON ARRIVAL AND PROVIDE THEM WITH AUTOMOBILE AND ESCORT, INCLUDING MILITARY AIDE, PRESUMABLY FOR DURATION OF THEIR VISIT.

3. EMBASSY IS TRANSMITTING TO PRESIDENT MENDEZ THE LETTER FROM ABA PRESIDENT SPANN SUPPORTING DE WIND'S REQUEST AS INSTRUCTED IN REFTEL (B). HOWEVER, WE ASSUME THAT THIS MENDEZ' REPLY TO DE WIND LETTER PROVIDES SUFFICIENT BASIS FOR ABA MISSION TO PROCEED.

CHEEK

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